

PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

November 16, 2006

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Madison, Wisconsin -- Erik C. Peterson, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Romelle Ross, 23, of Madison, Wisconsin, was sentenced today by U.S. District Judge John C. Shabaz to 200 months in prison for distribution of crack cocaine. Ross pleaded guilty to this charge on September 5, 2006.

The evidence showed that on May 11 and 12, 2006, Ross distributed a total of approximately 38 grams of crack cocaine in Madison to an undercover officer. Ross's lengthy sentence is driven in large part by his extensive criminal history, including two other felonies involving drugs and violence. Judge Shabaz emphasized the fact that prior penalties of probation and prison time had little effect on Ross, and that Ross continued to display little regard for the law.

The charges against Ross were the result of an investigation conducted by the Dane County Narcotics and Gang Task Force. The prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Timothy M. O'Shea.

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